

AMENDMENT AND PRESENTATION OF CLAIMS

Please replace all prior claims in the present application with the following claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a network hub, wherein the generic-recipient message comprises a message sent to a group or community address;

determining predefined attributes of the message, wherein the predefined attributes comprise one or more of a sender of the message, subject of the message, or content of the message;

determining a type of communication medium of the message;

determining one or more recipients for the message based at least in part upon the determined type and further based at least in part upon the predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes of the message with stored information related to potential recipients; and

directing dispatch of the message to the one or more determined recipients ~~by assigning recipient Radio Frequency identifiers, associated with a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the message, to the message; and~~
~~dispatching the message when the radio frequency tag or radio frequency tag reader is placed in proximity to the network hub.~~

2. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a network hub further comprises directing receipt of a generic-recipient message that includes either a Short Message Service message, a Multimedia Message Service message, an electronic mail message or a voice message; and wherein determining a type of

communication medium of the message comprises determining whether the message comprises a Short Message Service message, a Multimedia Message Service message, electronic mail message, or voice message.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a network hub further comprises directing receipt of a message by a wireless network hub.

4-6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein directing dispatch of the message to one or more recipients further comprises directing display of the message on a display.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 7, wherein the display is associated with the radio frequency identifier.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein directing dispatch of the message to one or more recipients further comprises directing transmission of the message to one or more recipients via a communication medium that includes either short-range wireless communication, Internet communication, Short Message Service communication, or Multimedia Message Service communication.

10. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a network hub, wherein the generic-recipient message comprises a message sent to a group or community address;

determining predefined attributes of the message, wherein the predefined attributes comprise one or more of a sender of the message, subject of the message, or content of the message;

determining a type of communication medium of the message;

determining whether the message has priority based at least in part on the determined type and on the predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes of the message with pre-stored priority information;

prioritizing the message when a determination is made that the message has priority; and

determining to dispatch the prioritized message ~~when a recipient assigned Radio Frequency identifier associated with a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the message is placed in proximity to the network hub.~~

11. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 10, wherein determining whether the message has priority based on the predefined attributes further comprises determining whether the message has display priority based on the predefined attributes.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein prioritizing the message when a determination is made that the message has priority further comprises prioritizing the display of the message when a determination is made that the message has display priority.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 12, wherein prioritizing the display of the message when a determination is made that the message has display priority further

comprises directing display of the message in a prominent position on a display associated with the hub.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 10, wherein determining whether the message has priority based on the predefined attributes further comprises determining whether the message has dispatch priority based on the predefined attributes.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 13, wherein prioritizing the message when a determination is made that the message has priority further comprises prioritizing the dispatch of the message when a determination is made that the message has dispatch priority.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein prioritizing the dispatch of the message when a determination is made that the message has dispatch priority further comprises prioritizing the communication medium used to dispatch the message when a determination is made that the message has communication medium dispatch priority.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein prioritizing the dispatch of the message when a determination is made that the message has dispatch priority further comprises prioritizing the time of dispatch of the message when a determination is made that the message has time dispatch priority.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 10, wherein directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a network hub further comprises directing receipt of a generic-recipient message that includes either a Short Message Service message, a Multimedia Message Service message, an electronic mail message or a voice message; and wherein determining a type

of communication medium of the message comprises determining whether the message comprises a Short Message Service message, a Multimedia Message Service message, electronic mail message, or voice message.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 10, wherein directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a network hub further comprises directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a wireless network hub.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising at least one processor and at least one memory storing computer program code, wherein the at least one memory and stored computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus to at least:

direct receipt of a generic-recipient message from one or more communication networks wherein the generic-recipient message comprises a message sent to a group or community address;

determine predefined attributes of the generic-recipient message, wherein the predefined attributes comprise one or more of a sender of the message, subject of the message, or content of the message;

determine a type of communication medium of the message;

determine one or more recipients for the message based at least in part upon the determined type and further based at least in part upon the predefined attributes by comparing the

predefined attributes of the message with stored information related to potential recipients; and

direct dispatch of the message to the one or more determined recipients ~~based at least in part upon the determined type of the message by assigning recipient Radio Frequency identifiers, associated with a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the message, to the message, and dispatching the message when the radio frequency tag or radio frequency tag reader is placed in proximity to the communication networks.~~

23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 22, wherein the at least one memory and stored computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus to direct dispatch of the message by directing dispatch of the message to one or more determined recipients via lower power Radio Frequency.

24. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 22, wherein the at least one memory and stored computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus to direct dispatch of the message by directing dispatch of the message to one or more determined recipients via a digital cellular network.

25. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 22, wherein the at least one memory and stored computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus to direct dispatch of the message by directing dispatch of the message to one or more determined recipients via a communication network.

26. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 25, wherein the communication network includes either a data network, a Short Message Service network, a Multimedia Message Service network or a telephony network.

27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 22, further comprising a display associated with the apparatus that is configured to, under the direction of the at least one memory and stored computer program code, display a message associated with the Radio Frequency identifiers.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising at least one processor and at least one memory storing computer program code, wherein the at least one memory and stored computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus to at least:

direct receipt of a generic-recipient message from one or more communication networks wherein the generic-recipient message comprises a message sent to a group or community address;

determine predefined attributes of the received generic-recipient message, wherein the predefined attributes comprise one or more of a sender of the message, subject of the message, or content of the message;

determine a type of communication medium of the message;

determine whether the message has priority based at least in part on the determined type and on the predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes of the message with pre-stored priority information; and

determine to dispatch the prioritized message ~~when a recipient assigned Radio Frequency identifier associated with a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the message is placed in proximity to the one or more communication networks.~~

30. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 29, wherein the at least one memory and stored computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, further cause the apparatus to determine predefined attributes of the received generic-recipient message and compare the predefined attributes to pre-stored display priority information to determine if the received message requires display prioritization.

31. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 30, further comprising a display associated with the apparatus that is configured to, under the direction of the at least one memory and stored computer program code, display message identifiers to one or more recipients.

32. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 30, wherein the at least one memory and stored computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, further cause the apparatus to display prioritized messages first in a list of messages, display prioritized messages in a new viewable window, or display prioritized messages in a highlighted form.

33. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 29, wherein the at least one memory and stored computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, further cause the apparatus to determine predefined attributes of the received generic-recipient message

and compare the predefined attributes to pre-stored dispatch priority information to determine if the received message requires dispatch prioritization.

34. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 33, wherein the at least one memory and stored computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, further cause the apparatus to provide for dispatch prioritization that includes either prioritizing the time at which messages will be dispatched, prioritizing the communication medium used to dispatch messages or prioritizing the recipients of the dispatched messages.

35. (Canceled)

36. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of one or more instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause an apparatus to at least perform the following steps:

directing storage of information related to potential message recipients;

directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a network hub and determining predefined attributes associated with the generic-recipient message, wherein the generic-recipient message comprises a message sent to a group or community address, and wherein the predefined attributes comprise one or more of a sender of the message, subject of the message, or content of the message;

determining a type of communication medium of the message;

determining one or more recipients of the generic-recipient message based at least in part upon the determined type and further based at least in part upon the predefined attributes

by comparing the predefined attributes associated with the generic-recipient message to the stored information related to potential message recipients; and
directing dispatch of the message to the one or more determined recipients by assigning recipient Radio Frequency identifiers, associated with a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the message, to the message, and dispatching the message when the radio frequency tag or radio frequency tag reader is placed in proximity to the network hub.

37. (Canceled)

38. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium of Claim 36, wherein the apparatus is caused, at least in part, to further perform:

directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a network hub,
determining predefined attributes associated with the generic-recipient message further comprise instructions configured for directing receipt of a generic-recipient message that includes either a Short Message Service message, a Multimedia Message Service message, an electronic mail message or a voice message; and
determining a type of communication medium of the message include instructions configured for determining whether the message comprises a Short Message Service message, a Multimedia Message Service message, an electronic mail message, or a voice message.

39. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium of Claim 36, wherein the apparatus is caused, at least in part, to further perform:

directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a wireless network hub.

40. (Canceled)

41. (Canceled)

42. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium of Claim 36, wherein the apparatus is caused, at least in part, to further perform:

directing display of the message on a display associated with the network hub.

43. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium of Claim 42, wherein the apparatus is caused, at least in part, to further perform:

directing display of the message, which is associated with the Radio Frequency identifier, on a display associated with the network hub, wherein the recipient Radio Frequency identifier is associated with the radio frequency tag or radio frequency tag reader.

44. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium of Claim 36, wherein the apparatus is caused, at least in part, to further perform:

directing transmission of the message to one or more recipients via a communication medium chosen from the group of communication medium that includes either short-range wireless communication, Internet communication, Short Message Service communication, or Multimedia Message Service communication.

45. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of one or more instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause an apparatus to at least perform the following steps:

directing storage of information related to message priority;

directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a network hub and determining predefined attributes associated with the generic-recipient message, wherein the generic-recipient message comprises a message sent to a group or community address, and wherein the predefined attributes comprise one or more of a sender of the message, subject of the message, or content of the message;

determining a type of communication medium of the message;

determining whether the generic-recipient message has priority based at least in part on the determined type and on the predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes associated with the generic-recipient message to the stored information related to message priority; and

dispatching the prioritized message ~~when a recipient assigned Radio Frequency identifier associated with a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the message is placed in proximity to the network hub.~~

46. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium of Claim 45, wherein the apparatus is caused, at least in part, to further perform:

directing storage of information related to message display priority, and

determining whether the generic-recipient message has display priority by comparing the predefined attributes associated with the generic-recipient message to the stored information related to message display priority.

47. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium of Claim 45, wherein the apparatus is caused, at least in part, to further perform:

directing storage of information related to message dispatch priority, and

determining whether the message has dispatch priority by comparing the predefined attributes associated with the messages to the stored information related to message dispatch priority.

48. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium of Claim 45, wherein the apparatus is caused, at least in part, to further perform:

directing receipt of a generic-recipient message that includes either a Short Message Service message, a Multimedia Message Service message, an electronic mail message, a voice message, and

determining whether the message comprises a Short Message Service message, a Multimedia Message Service message, an electronic mail message, or a voice message.

49. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium of Claim 45, wherein the apparatus is caused, at least in part, to further perform:

directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a wireless network hub.

50. (Canceled)

51. (Canceled)

52. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 10, further comprising displaying of the message on a display responsive to the radio frequency tag or radio frequency tag reader being placed in proximity to the network hub.

53. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein directing dispatch of the message to the one or more determined recipients includes assigning recipient Radio Frequency identifiers, associated with a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the message, to the message, and dispatching the message when the radio frequency tag or radio frequency tag reader is placed in proximity to the network hub.

54. (New) The method of Claim 10, wherein the determination to dispatch the prioritized message is based on, at least in part, when a recipient-assigned Radio Frequency identifier associated with a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the message is placed in proximity to the network hub.

55. (New) The apparatus of Claim 22, wherein the at least one memory and stored computer program, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus to direct dispatch of the message to the one or more determined recipients based, at least in part, upon the determined type of the message by assigning recipient Radio Frequency identifiers, associated with a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the message, to the message, and when the radio frequency tag or radio frequency tag reader is placed in proximity to the communication networks.

56. (New) The apparatus of Claim 29, wherein the at least one memory and stored computer program code, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus to determine to dispatch the prioritized message when a recipient-assigned Radio Frequency identifier associated with a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the message is placed in proximity to the one or more communication networks.

57. (New) The apparatus of Claim 36, wherein the directing dispatch of the message to the one or more determined recipients includes assigning recipient Radio Frequency identifiers, associated with a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the message, to the message, and dispatching the message when the radio frequency tag or radio frequency tag reader is placed in proximity to the network hub.

58. (New) The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium of Claim 45, wherein dispatching the prioritized message occurs when a recipient-assigned Radio Frequency identifier associated with a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the message is placed in proximity to the network hub.